

Summary of Grant Program

This report, covering the period of July 1, 2002 to March 31, 2004, constitutes the sixth and final report for the 2002 Watershed Coordinator Grant Program. Funding from the California Bay-Delta Authority allowed DOC to extend 18 of the grants from the pilot Watershed Coordinator Grant Program for a period of 18 months. Of the original 30 grants, 21 fell within the CALFED Solution Area and were eligible for funding; however, only 18 requested to be refunded. Three of the grantees had secured enough funding to become self-sufficient and declined additional support. The remaining 9 original grantees from the pilot program fell outside of the CALFED Solution Area and were not eligible for additional funding.

Information received from the grantees has been reviewed by the DOC staff, and is presented in this report. Also included at the end of this report are three tables. Table 1 summarizes the total amount of additional funding obtained by the grantees, Table 2 lists the political districts covered by each grantee, and Table 3 shows progress on work plan objectives and performance measures.

The grantee reports are formatted as individual fact sheets and are listed alphabetically. For each grant, progress on objectives and performance measures, as well as benefits to the watershed are listed. Please refer to the individual fact sheets for details.

We are pleased to report that the major accomplishments of the 18 coordinators are as follows:

- ◆ **Over \$14.5 million in additional watershed funding was obtained by the watershed coordinators.** This amount is \$7.9 million more than was reported last quarter. This additional funding is the result of grant writing and fund-raising activities conducted by the coordinators. This money would have gone to other purposes or even to other states without the efforts of the coordinators. With \$1.1 million paid for coordinator costs, this represents an impressive **13:1 return on investment**.
- ◆ **Seventy percent (50 out of 71) of the work plan objectives were completed.** These objectives included completing on-the-ground and educational projects, establishing new watershed groups, and obtaining new project funding. Many of the remaining objectives were long-term and are still in progress.
- ◆ **Established 18 new watershed stewardship or working groups.**
- ◆ **Coordinated the completion of 53 on-the-ground projects.**
- ◆ **Established 108 new water quality/quantity monitoring sites.**
- ◆ **Assisted with the implementation of 64 best management practices.**
- ◆ **Helped to develop watershed conservation plans for landowners/farmers.**
- ◆ **Coordinated the removal of invasive species from over 217 acres of land.**

Cachuma Resource Conservation District

Santa Maria River and Cuyama River Watershed

Amount Funded: \$68,500

Match Provided: \$45,179

Additional Funding Obtained: \$118,000

Watershed Coordinator: Thomas Lockhart



Watershed Goal: To reduce off-site transport of water, sediment, and nutrients from farms and ranches.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Assist three existing watershed working groups in implementing their watershed plans.

- Watershed working groups in Oso Flaco, San Antonio and Carpinteria Creeks are ready to implement their watershed plans. Portions of the plans that do not require outside funding have begun. Cachuma RCD's irrigation mobile lab and the NRCS EQIP program are both being promoted in these watersheds.

Performance Measure 1.1: Produce three watershed plans, which include conservation of water quality and water quantity.

- Watershed plans for Oso Flaco, San Antonio and Carpinteria Creeks are complete. Water conservation practices are included in each plan as follows:
 - The Oso Flaco Creek plan relies heavily on farmers utilizing the mobile irrigation lab to evaluate their irrigation systems. Mobile lab evaluations often lead to the farmers using less irrigation water and having less runoff.
 - The San Antonio Creek plan includes irrigation water management as a recommended practice for the vineyards and vegetable farms in the watershed. Erosion control structures are recommended for repair and installation, which will reduce sedimentation and improve water quality.
 - Carpinteria Creek's plan includes a recommendation for use of the irrigation mobile lab and conversion to more efficient micro-sprinkler irrigation systems, which will conserve water and reduce runoff. Practices that will reduce spraying in the riparian zones are also included in the plan.



Demonstration of drip-tape splicing, which allows tape to be re-used for up to 10 crops.

Performance Measure 1.2: Decrease nitrate concentration by 20% in Oso Flaco Creek.

- The pre-sidedress soil nitrate quick test has been recommended to the farmers in the Oso Flaco Creek Watershed. Two farmers are incorporating this practice into their operations and are managing nitrogen fertilizers in a more conscientious manner.

Performance Measure 1.3: Reduce sediment delivery into San Antonio Creek by 30%.

- The San Antonio Creek Plan contains recommendations that will result in the installation of new and the repair of old grade control structures. When implemented, sediment delivery to the creek should be reduced by the 30% goal.

Performance Measure 1.4: Improve steelhead passage in Carpinteria Creek by 50%.

- There are five low-water crossings that have been identified for removal; however, it will be at least another year before any of the barriers are removed.

Objective 2: Oversee the start-up of two additional watershed-working groups.

- The San Jose Creek Stakeholder Group met once during the fifth quarter and its watershed plan is in draft form.
- The Gaviota Creek Watershed Work Group will have its first meeting this winter.

Performance Measure 2.1: Draft two watershed plans, which include conservation of water quality and water quantity.

- The San Antonio Creek and the Oso Flaco Creek watershed plans are completed and contain numerous water quality improvements and methods to conserve water.

Performance Measure 2.2: Improve conservation of water quantity and quality in two new watersheds by 20%.

- The irrigation mobile lab has provided seven water conservation workshops in three new watersheds. These presentations resulted in ten additional mobile lab evaluations. Recommendations from these evaluations will help participating landowners decrease water application on their land.

Additional Funding Obtained:

- A contract has been signed with the California State Parks to produce the Gaviota Watershed Plan Project (\$82,000).
- The California Coastal Conservancy awarded the district funds to conduct a hydrologic study of the lower reaches of the Santa Maria River (\$22,000).
- The Cachuma Lake Conservation and Release Board awarded Cachuma RCD \$10,000 to oversee the construction of fish ladders in tributaries of the Santa Ynez River.
- The Land Trust of Santa Barbara agreed to provide funding for the preparation of an erosion control plan for the Arroyo Hondo Creek Watershed (\$4,000).

Grant Benefits to the Watershed:

- 48 farms have been mapped in the Oso Flaco Creek Watershed and Individual Farm Plans are being produced by nine of the operators at those farms.
- San Jose Creek has an active watershed work group that will finalize their watershed management plan in 2004.
- 92 irrigation evaluations were conducted by the Mobile Irrigation Lab.
- A watershed-working group is now active in Gaviota Creek Watershed.
- Over 14 different organizations and agencies have cooperated with Cachuma RCD on watershed projects.

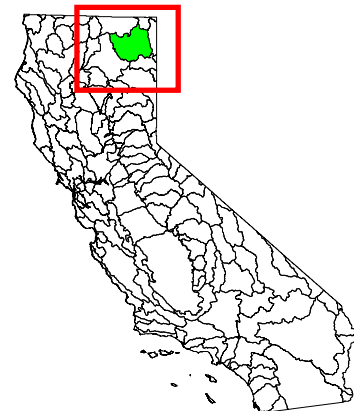
Central Modoc Resource Conservation District Upper Pit River Watershed

Amount Funded: \$66,400

Match Provided: \$18,100

Additional Funding Obtained: \$1,496,330

Watershed Coordinator: Cliff Harvey



Watershed Goals, Objectives, and Progress

Goal 1: Contribute to watershed-wide assessment.

Objective 1: Support Pit River Watershed Alliance assessment project.

- Attended 12 regularly scheduled meetings of the Pit River Watershed Alliance (PRWA) Watershed Assessment Committee during this grant and responded to calls for information.
- Provided input in to the development of the assessment. The “Technical Review Draft” of the assessment was reviewed, and comments were forwarded to the Assessment contractor.

Performance Measure: Documentation of district input to assessment drafts, participation in nine team meetings.

- Attended 12 team meetings.



*Modoc National Wildlife Refuge,
Alturas, CA*

Objective 2: Contribute to watershed wide GIS database.

- GPS data for new monitoring locations was collected and is to be incorporated into the PRWA Water Quality Monitoring GIS layers.
- Consolidated past and current CMRCD watershed data.
- Compiled raw data for the watershed.

Performance Measure: Annual GIS Update, documentation of updates to SARE and ICE

Goal 2: Continue implementation of the CMRCD Monitoring Plan.

Objective 1: Collect, document and disseminate complete monitoring site data set for target parameters and locations.

- Coordinated a botanical survey of the Upper Pit River.
- Established 12 new monitoring locations on the Pit River and its tributaries. Initial data collection began in December.
- Developed contracts to fund the monitoring projects.
- Assisted the Watershed Alliance Monitoring Committee with the development of monitoring plans and budgets.

- Obtained access permission for numerous private land sampling sites.
- Trained staff and coordinated staff time to provide for data collection.
- Assisted in data collection.

Performance Measure: Establish 10 monitoring sites, 50 independent photo points, and collect macroinvertebrate data for 10 tributaries.

- 12 new monitoring sites were established.

Objective 2: Compile baseline vegetation data for project sites with emphasis on revegetation success and noxious weeds.

- Completed botanical surveys for 3 different re-vegetation projects. The coordinator is currently assisting with preparing survey reports.

Performance Measure: Re-vegetation data for two project sites.

- Botanical surveys were conducted for three different re-vegetation project sites.

Goal 3: Continued implementation of demonstration watershed restoration projects.

Objective 1: Initiate Proposition 13 Projects.

- The Prop. 13 contract was approved in February 2003.
- Over a mile of riparian fencing was put in place over the summer. Re-vegetation work will begin in spring 2004.

Performance Measure: Completed signed Prop. 13 contract.

- This performance measure was met when the Prop. 13 contract was signed and work commenced on Feb. 1, 2003.

Objective 2: Initiate Cantara Foundation Projects.

- The Cantara Foundation grant consists of seven individual projects.
- The following work was conducted on the seven projects:
 - 1. South Fork Pit River - Talbott Project: The coordinator obtained all the required permits for this project. Most excavation and revegetation were completed in fall 2003. Additional revegetation efforts continued as planned in the spring and summer of 2004.
 - 2. Nader-Witcher Creek: The coordinator obtained all necessary permits for this project. Work is set to proceed under supervision of CMRCD project coordination staff as soon as field conditions allow.
 - 3. Gleason Creek Fences: This riparian fencing project is complete. Additional work may be added to the project if any Cantara funds remain at the end of the other projects.
 - 4. Bushey Ranch - Turner Creek: This project was removed from the active list of projects in November 2003 at the request of the landowners. The reason cited was the landowners inability to economically manage required grazing elements. Several substitute project proposals are under consideration.
 - 5. Heard Ranch & Valena Ranch/Pit River: Riparian fencing is complete at this project area, with a mile of the Pit River now protected through better livestock management.

The coordinator has continued site visits with design consultants to refine the planned project's details. Development of the proposed revegetation sites occurred in early 2004 and installation is planned for later in the year.

- 6. DJ Ranch, Parker Creek banks: No new activity.
- 7. Weber Parker Creek fish habitat structure: Permitting has been approved for this project. Construction was planned to begin as soon as weather permitted.

Performance Measure: Approved and signed contract; Submitted permit applications and initial CEQA/NEPA documentation; Draft project design.

- The Scope of Work and contract were finalized and signed on September 30, 2003.
- Project designs were drafted and finalized for the Weber Ranch-Parker Creek fish habitat structure and the Nader-Witcher Creek Restoration Project.
- Permits were obtained for the South Fork Pit River Tallbott Project, the Nader-Witcher Creek Restoration Project, the Bushey Ranch project on Turner Creek, and the Weber Parker Creek fish habitat structure project.
- The Gleason Creek fencing project was completed. The Heard Ranch & Valena Ranch/Pit River: Riparian fencing was also completed resulting in a mile of the Pit River now protected through better livestock management.

Objective 3: Develop New Project Proposals

Work under this objective is dependant on funding from a Prop. 13 Phase 2 grant from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Notification of the award of this Prop. 13 grant was received early in the life of the DOC grant. Four draft "Scope of Work" and budget forms were submitted, reviewed by SWRCB, and returned for revision. Each return included new problems not mentioned in previous reviews. In some cases, subsequent reviews requested changes to previously recommended elements that returned the text to a form that was near the original submission. At the time the grantee submitted their sixth quarter report, they had submitted a draft 5 that appeared to be acceptable to SWRCB. The Prop. 13 grant was executed on April 15, 2004.

Despite the delay in funding, the following work took place on the projects funded through the Prop. 13 grant:

- The X-L Cemetery Reach project: Detailed work on this project was delayed pending the start of expected Prop 13 Phase 2 funding. Communication with tribal staff continued.
- No activity took place on the Dry Creek Fencing project because of the funding delay.
- The coordinator supervised the collection of site assessment data for the Clark Property project. Project planning proceeded when funding was secured.
- The landowners involved with the Cedotal Project decided not to proceed with the project: The coordinator anticipates working with Mr. Cedotal and the I'Sot community to improve watershed and riparian management on their lands in the future.
- Other new project proposals developed by the coordinator include:

- Treatment of bank erosion associated with seasonal inundation at irrigation diversions on the North Fork Pit River at the Schluter Ranch. Funding for engineering studies of this difficult site was secured through a new Prop. 13 grant.
- Treatment of an incised spring fed channel to improve wetland function on an un-named tributary to the South Fork Pit River.
- Treatment of a channelized reach of the South Fork Pit River. Funding for this project was secured through a new Prop. 13 grant.
- Treatment of a channelized reach including rehabilitation of old meander channels on the Pit River (in association with Modoc NWR). Funding for this project was secured through a new Prop. 13 grant.

Performance Measure: Production of approved project design alternatives for all projects.

Goal 4: Ensure coordination of District programs with other watershed stakeholders.

Objective 1: Continue and improve coordination of UPRWEPP Technical Advisory Committee.

- Held three Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings.
- Disseminated three TAC newsletters to over 150 stakeholders. The newsletter provides information about projects taking place within the watershed.
- Put most CMRCD watershed project photos on their website at <http://cmrcd.carcd.org>
- Attended the regularly scheduled Pit River Watershed Alliance meetings and maintained contact with all PRWA participants to ensure coordination of efforts.
- Maintained communication with the Modoc County Noxious Weed Working Group and attended most of their regularly scheduled meetings.
- Worked with the PRWA coordinator to visit past and current project sites, to develop grant proposals, to obtain project permits, and to coordinate efforts.



The watershed coordinator assists in data collection at Canyon Creek Dec. 2003.

Performance Measure: Minutes of three TAC meetings. Complete six TAC newsletters. Maintained TAC website link. Attend eight meetings of PRWA, MNWWG, documentation of cooperation with PRWA coordinator.

- The coordinator conducted three TAC meetings, completed three TAC newsletters, attended nine Alliance meetings, and five Modoc County Noxious Weed Working Group meetings.

Goal 5: Ensure that all stakeholders are aware of and informed about watershed concepts and issues.

- Objective 1: Link all CMRCD/UPRWEPP monitoring, assessment, and restoration projects to the CMRCD River Center education & outreach programs.

- Conducted site visits to Pit River Land and Cattle Co., the Silvestri property, and the Hagedorn/Morris property.
- Staffed the Modoc County Fair watershed booth to provide Modoc County residents with information about the Pit River watershed.
- Contacted the Modoc High Natural Resources Academy advisor to develop watershed education activities for the new school year.

Performance Measure: Facilitate preparation of six CRWQMPs; Assist in three K-12 watershed programs; Assist in 6 outreach events; Coordinate stream restoration workshop; 54 site visits.

- The coordinator has assisted with developing an educational program for high school students, conducted one watershed restoration workshop, assisted in three outreach events and conducted 27 site visits.

Goal 6: Ensure continuing implementation of CMRCD/UPRWEPP vision and goals.

Objective 1: Obtain funding for new and continuing projects and programs.

- The coordinator obtained \$1,496,330 in new funding.

Performance Measure: Preparation and submission of competitive grant proposals, and development of viable Scope of Work/contract documents for awarded grants.

- Submitted a total of eight grant applications, finalized a Prop. 13 scope of work, finalized a Cantara Foundation scope of work and started work on a Prop. 13 phase II scope of work.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

- The USFW provided an additional \$15,000 of funding for a bank stabilization project.
- Received \$585,580 in additional funding through a Prop. 13 Phase II grant. This funding will support assessment, outreach, and planning activities within the watershed.
- Obtained a \$700,000 grant for the Upper Pit River Watershed Enhancement and Protection Project that will fund various watershed restoration activities. The project will be funded through the Prop. 13 Non-point Source Program.
- Obtained a \$196,330 grant from the DOC to fund a watershed coordinator position for the Upper Pit River.

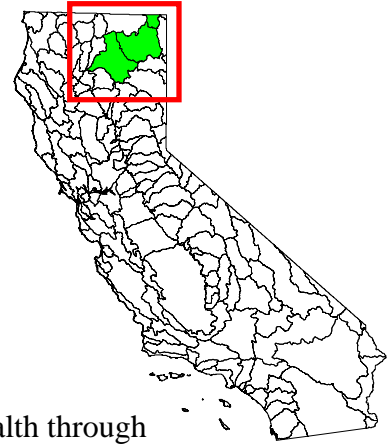
Grant Benefits to the Watershed:

- Established 12 new monitoring locations on the Pit River and its tributaries.
- Obtained access permission for numerous private land sampling sites.
- Obtained permits to implement four separate watershed improvement projects.
- Project designs were drafted and finalized for constructing a fish habitat structure and for implementing a restoration project on the Nader-Witcher Creek.
- Completed a fencing project on Gleason Creek.

- Riparian fencing was also completed on a mile stretch of the Pit River resulting in better livestock management within the watershed.
- Obtained stakeholder support for watershed improvement efforts by conducting site visits to 27 landowners, by frequently communicating with landowners, and by conducting outreach.
- Obtained \$1,496,330 in grant funding to conduct a wide variety of watershed improvement projects.

Central Modoc Resource Conservation District

Goose Lake, Upper & Lower Pit River Watersheds



Amount Funded: \$62,500

Match Provided: \$23,400

Additional Funding Obtained: \$945,000

Watershed Coordinator: James Rickert

Watershed Goal: Achieve long-term economic and environmental health through active community participation.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Improve communication among partners and stakeholders.

- Facilitated 10 Pit River Watershed Alliance meetings during this grant.
- Initiated a Pit River Internet discussion group to allow for increased communication among watershed stakeholders.
- Held a 3-day irrigated agriculture water quality short course Fall 2003. The short course focused on a variety of topics including, water quality monitoring, irrigation water effects on water quality, minimizing nonpoint source pollution, and new regulations.
- Maintained the Pit River Watershed Alliance interactive website.
- Initiated a Yahoo discussion group for the Pit River Watershed Alliance. The group is used to announce events within the watershed. The discussion group has resulted in a greater amount of communication between watershed partners and stakeholders.
- The coordinator has distributed a total of 437 PRWA brochures since the start of this grant.



*Pit River Water Quality Monitoring
Field Day*

Performance Measure: Obtain and secure a total of 35 signatories on the MOU.

- Since the first quarter, the coordinator has obtained three new signatories including the High Mountain Hay Growers, the Modoc County Noxious Weed Working Group, and the Fall River Wild Rice Growers Cooperative. The MOU now includes a total of 27 signatories.

Objective 2: Seek funding for Pit River Watershed Alliance to implement priority projects.

- Helped the Pit RCD obtain a \$320,000 EPA 319(h) grant that will allow them to hire a watershed coordinator. The coordinator will supervise the implementation of several stream restoration projects.

- Obtained a \$305,000 Prop. 13 CALFED Watershed Program grant to fund a Pit River Watershed Assessment.
- Helped the North Cal Neva RC&D obtain a \$95,000 grant from the Dept. of Water Resources to fund a water quality monitoring coordinator.
- Worked with representatives from the North Cal-Neva RC&D and CMRCD to develop a funding strategy for the Pit River Watershed “River Center”.
- Collaborated with the Pit River Tribe to develop a grant proposal that would fund research based restoration to analyze various methods of minimizing nonpoint source pollution.
- Received an \$18,000 challenge grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for further development of the Alliance website.

Performance Measure: Assist writing five funding proposals for priority projects in cooperation with Pit River Watershed Alliance stakeholders.

- The coordinator has submitted eleven proposals since the first quarter.

Objective 3: Coordinate Pit River Watershed Alliance projects.

- Helped initiate and coordinate the Pit River Water Quality Monitoring Program. The program includes a total of 52 monitoring sites on the main stem of the Pit River and 18 tributaries. Due to the success of the program, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board asked PRWA to expand their monitoring program to include the Fall River, a neighboring watershed.
- 12 water-quality monitoring sites were established in the Fall River watershed. Monitoring began in September.
- Coordinated the Fall River water-quality monitoring program.
- Held several Watershed Assessment Subcommittee meetings to provide the consultant with direction in the completion of the watershed assessment. The consultant has since developed a draft watershed assessment, which is currently being reviewed by the technical review team.
- Coordinated the PRWA Watershed Monitoring Field Day. This field day provided stakeholders with an opportunity to tour current monitoring locations on the Pit River and Ash Creek. Stakeholders and agencies also had the chance to exchange monitoring information and ideas.
- The coordinator is currently working on a watershed inventory of all restoration projects within the watershed.



PRWA contractor testing water quality on Fall River, Shasta Co.

Performance Measure: Three projects are identified.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

CVRWQCB SWAMP Program (plus Fall River monitoring contract amendment)

- Total funding amount: \$82,000

DWR Monitoring Coordinator Position

- Total funding amount: \$204,000

Prop. 13 CALFED Watershed Program

- Obtained a \$305,000 to fund a Pit River Watershed Assessment.

EPA 319(h)

- Helped the Pit RCD obtain a \$320,000 grant that will allow them to hire a watershed coordinator. The coordinator will supervise the implementation of several stream restoration projects.

Funding Obtained for Website and Capacity Building:

USFS Interactive Watershed Website Funding

- Total funding amount: \$15,000

Modoc National Forest

- Total funding amount: \$15,000

North Cal-Neva RC&D

- Total funding amount: \$4,000

Grant Benefits to the Watershed:

The PRWA Watershed Monitoring Program was initiated and is currently underway. This program consists of multiple government and state agencies working together to strategically monitor 52 tributary and Pit River main stem sites, as well as 12 sites on the Fall River. This coordination effort has been a major accomplishment for the entire Pit River watershed.

The Pit River Watershed Assessment is currently under public review and will be completed soon. The Assessment will help guide future management watershed decisions for many years to come.

The coordinator helped obtain \$945,000 in funding to conduct watershed improvement projects.

Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

Central Coastal Watershed

Amount Funded: \$60,024

Match Provided: \$80,459

Additional Funding Obtained: \$1,558,656

Watershed Coordinator: Deborah Barker



Watershed Goal: Improve water use efficiency, ecosystem quality, and water quality in watersheds in the district.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Provide assistance for implementation of conservation practices that improve water use efficiency, ecosystem quality, and water quality.

- Coordinated the completion of the Implementation and Maintenance agreement for the Chorro Creek Ecological Reserve (CCER). The CCER will be used as a demonstration site for conservation practices and restoration practices. The coordinator began working with Morro Bay National Estuary Program staff to revise the Interim Management Plan. The coordinator will continue her work on the development of this site.
- The Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program was developed during the life of this grant as a one-stop regulatory permit process for farmers and ranchers that want to implement conservation practices on their land. The PIR program has been used for four conservation projects in the Morro Bay watershed.
- During the life of the grant the coordinator assisted landowners in the completion of the following projects:
 - Fencing and water development on Warden Creek.
 - Cross fencing and water development on Hollister Peak Ranch and no San Luisito Creek.
 - An emergency snag removal project on Los Osos Creek.
 - Three crossing replacement, bank stabilization, riparian buffer and instream flow augmentation projects on Chorro and San Bernardo Creeks.
 - Two snag removal projects on Warden Creek.
 - A fencing project on Warden Creek.
 - A grade stabilization project on Warde Creek.
 - A Los Osos Creek corridor improvement project.
 - A snag removal on Los Osos Creek.
 - A Los Osos Creek sediment removal and steelhead passage project.
 - A Los Osos Creek critical area planting project.
 - Easement appraisals
- The coordinator also initiated several other projects that are currently in process. Projects currently underway include:
 - The Chorro Creek bank stabilization project.

- Projects on the Chorro Creek Ecological Reserve, including a fencing project that began in February 2004.
- A weed clearing and revegetation project at Chorro Flats. This project will remove non-native weeds and replace them with native grasses and flowers.
- A Chorro Flats Roadside weed removal and revegetation project.
- The Pennington and Dairy Creek Fish Barrier Removal projects. The coordinator facilitated the initiation of the design process for these two projects. These projects will provide steelhead with increased access to high quality habitat in the upper watershed.
- The coordinator facilitated the start of a grazing management plan for a ranch that spans the San Bernardo Creek and San Luisito Creek watersheds. This plan will result in the installation of 6,000 feet of fencing, eight water troughs, and three water tanks.
- In the Los Osos Valley, the coordinator initiated the design phase for the installation of two sediment basins.
- Helped develop a grazing management plan for a ranch on San Bernardo Creek. The plan will eventually result in the installation of 18,000 feet of fencing, two wells, pumps, several troughs, and several water tanks.
- Currently helping to develop a ranch management plan on Escuela Ranch that will result in a stream crossing improvement.
- Several projects are being developed on the Arroyo Grande Creek that will include the repair or replacement of out-dated and poorly functioning irrigation systems. These projects will help improve water use efficiency in the watershed and serve as demonstration sites for successful conservation projects.

Performance Measure: Number of landowners that participate in Cooperative Extension short courses (# over two courses). Number and extent of conservation practices installed (10). Number of growers who receive irrigation system evaluations. Amount of funding obtained for funding conservation practices (funding for 10 practices).

- Participated in the presentation of 11 UCCE short courses. 112 landowners participated in the courses.
- Contacted 39 landowners.
- Installed 32 conservation practices to date.
- Assisted 21 landowners in obtaining cost share funds.
- Obtained 9 permits so far.
- Completed coordinated permitting program for Morro Bay Partners in Restoration.

Objective 2: Support education and outreach to landowners and agency staff.

- Coordinated several farm tours, field days, and workshops to demonstrate the effectiveness of conservation practices. The events took place on both private and public lands.

Performance Measure: Number of demonstration sites developed (2). Number of landowners who document or otherwise share the benefits of conservation practices (6). Number of people who participate in farm tours or field days (# over 3 tours). Number of regulatory referrals to the NRCS or the district (12).

- Established three demonstration projects on construction sites in Pismo Beach, Arroyo Grande, and Grover Beach.
- Seventeen landowners documented benefits that resulted from conservation practices.
- Conducted ten tours or field days throughout the watershed.
- Provided NRCS with six regulatory referrals.

Objective 3: Facilitate and improve coordination, collaboration, and assistance among governmental agencies, other organizations, and local watershed groups.

- Coordinated watershed activities of the RCD and the MBNEP. Including the development of the Los Osos Creek Management Plan, The Los Osos Creek Wetland Reserve Management Plan, Project Clearwater, and several other MBNEP projects.
- Provided assistance to the Arroyo Grande Watershed Forum and assisted UCCE with the development of the Arroyo Grande Watershed Management Plan.
- Helped to re-establish the Zone 1/1A Flood Control Advisory Committee. The coordinator is continuing to work with this group to develop a plan and find funding sources for the Arroyo Grande Creek channel.

Performance Measure: Number of watershed stewardship groups that form through assistance from the watershed coordinator (3). Number of RCD board members who participate in watershed stewardship groups (3). Number of landowners who participate in watershed stewardship groups (6). Amount of funding obtained by watershed stewardship groups through assistance from the watershed coordinator (3 proposals submitted).

- Assisted in the development of four watershed stewardship groups.
- Encouraged landowners to attend 19 watershed stewardship group meetings.
- Conducted three education events.
- Developed ten farm/ranch plans.
- RCD members have attended 33 watershed stewardship group and/or governmental agency meetings.
- Submitted six proposals to obtain funding for watershed stewardship group projects.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

Arroyo Grande Creek Water Quality Enhancement Project

- Description: Technical support and cost share funds to implement conservation projects on agricultural land. Funding organization: State Water Resources Control Board. Funding amount: \$102,538 (319h). Approved for funding: 11/2003

Project Clearwater-Morro Bay

- Description: Technical support and cost-share funds to implement conservation practices on agricultural land. Funding organization: State Water Resources Control Board. Funding amount: \$500,000. (319h). Approved for funding 10/2003.

Project Clearwater-Morro Bay

- Description: Technical support and cost-share funds to implement conservation practices on agricultural land. Funding organization: Morro Bay National Estuary Program. Funding amount: \$499,562. Approved for funding: 10/2002.

DOC Watershed Coordinator Grant-Grant # 3003-557

- Description: Improve water quality, water use efficiency, ecosystem quality, and soil conservation through out the watershed. Funding amount: \$165,977. Approved for funding : 3/2004

Mobile Water Quality Laboratory

- Description: Irrigation systems evaluations for landowners to improve water quality and water use efficiency. The lab is shared with the Upper Salinas Los Tables and Cachuma RCDs. Funding organization: Cachuma RCD. Funding amount: \$15,000/year for three years. Total funding \$45,000. Funding approved: 8/2003

Dixon and Searcy Ranches Conservation Easement Monitoring

- Description: The RCD will conduct annual inspections of these ranches to document compliance with easement requirements and conditions. Funding organization: Dixon and Searcy Ranches. Funding amount: \$5,000. Funding approved: 11/2002.

City of Arroyo Grande Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Review

- Description: The RCD has signed a contract with the City to check development plans for erosion control and sedimentation control during and after project construction. Funding organization: Developer fees billed by the City of Arroyo Grande. Funding amount: \$5,000. Funding approved: 8/2002.

Arroyo Grande Watershed Management Plan

- Description: The coordinator worked with Central Coast Salmon Enhancement on this grant. The purpose of the grant is to develop a watershed management plan for Arroyo Grande Creek which includes habitat assessment, hydrological surveys, and geological studies of the watershed. The coordinator will assist with the studies and plan development. The grant will provide funding for the coordinators time on the project. Funding organization: CA Dept. of Fish and Game. Funding amount: \$173,341. Funding approved: 11/2002.

Total amount of funding approved = \$1,558,656.

Total amount of proposals not funded = \$3,013,528.

Total value of all grant proposals submitted = \$4,572,184.

Grant Benefits to the Watershed:

The grant was effective because it provided funding for a staff member to work on a wide variety of projects within the watershed. The watershed coordinator was able to provide technical assistance for project design, permitting, and obtain grant funds for public and private

landowners in several watersheds. The watersheds the coordinator worked within have benefited as follows:

Morro Bay Watershed

- Chorro Creek Ecological Reserve Interim Management Plan completed – Phase 1 is being implemented.
- Los Osos Creek Wetland Reserve Management Plan complete.
- Stream Crossing Inventory and Fish Passage Evaluation completed.
- Partners in Restoration Permit Streamlining Program completed and being used for projects in the watershed.
- Several conservation projects that include numerous BMP's have been installed on public and private lands.
- Several demonstration sites have been developed in the watershed.
- Several new projects are in the design/development phase.
- The coordinator has a strong working relationship with the MBNEP that has helped provide additional grant funding for conservation projects.
- Tours of successful projects are given to landowners, agency staff, and watershed stewardship groups. Chorro flats is used as a demonstration site by local colleges and K-12 schools in the RCD.

Arroyo Grande Creek Watershed

- Increased public awareness of watershed and stream dynamics.
- The coordinator is involved in the planning and design process for several irrigation improvement projects in the watershed. These projects will improve water use efficiency.
- The coordinator is participating in several watershed and flood management groups to solve flooding, sedimentation, and erosion problems in the watershed.
- The City of Arroyo Grande is consulting with the RCD on erosion control measures for new developments. They are incorporating the coordinators recommendations into the City building permit process.

Pismo Lake Watershed

- Pismo Lake Watershed Enhancement Plan completed.

Osos Flaco Lake Watershed

- A technical advisory committee for the Oso Flaco Lake Nonpoint Source Pollutant Assessment Project has been established.